M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1967 Press / Mis.

Dated 18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 25th July 1871.

No. 408. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 27th June 1871, No. 1,019:—

In reference to G. O., 17th June 1871, No. 1,633, furnishing instructions as to the manner in which money transactions with the Presidency Workshop are to be adjusted, I have the honour to report as follows:—

1. It is with sincere regret that I learn that the remarks contained in the concluding paragraph of my letter No. 615, of the 30th ultimo, are considered "inappropriate," but I venture to point out that the facts are not precisely as stated in the last paragraph of the G. O. quoted, nor does the G. O. altogether meet the question.

2. In the first place I may mention that the Range Officer had *de facto* nothing whatever to do with the matter, and can therefore hardly be blamed for having "exceeded his authorized expenditure." I find from the records of this office that, on the 9th May 1870, the Officiating Superintending Engineer intimated to the General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops the despatch of a considerable number of levelling and mathematical instruments for repair and return. These were accordingly repaired and returned to this office at intervals between July and September 1870.

3. In G. O., dated 4th October 1870, No. 2,304, a new system of adjustment of accounts for the repair of instruments was communicated, and in accordance with the instructions contained in that G. O., the Superintendent of Stores submitted on the 18th February 1871 a bill in triplicate of Rupees 418-15-3 for the repair of the instruments in question. One of these copies was duly countersigned and returned to the supplying officer, and a second was submitted to the Controller as directed. From that time up to the present moment nothing was heard from the Controller on the subject; and, as heretofore, it had not been the custom in the divisions to charge the amount, whether of repairs or of original cost, of expensive instruments of the kind in question to the meagre allotment for "Tools and Plant," under the head of either of which *cognomina* it would not, I submit, occur to a Range Officer, without special instructions to that effect, to rank levelling or mathematical instruments, it was imagined that the account would be arranged as formerly under the head of instruments supplied by the Government to the divisions.

4. On the 25th March 1871, the General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops informed me that the above-mentioned amount of Rupees 418-15-3 was debited on that date "to my range," and he requested me to afford credit for the same in my *cash* accounts for the *current month* under "Transfers." This was accordingly done, under the impression that the Controller would make the necessary adjustments, as it was never for a moment supposed that the ordinary allotment of one range was to be all at once saddled with and to support unaided this divisional charge.

5. Seeing, therefore, that the expenditure in the repair of these instruments was incurred prior to the publication of the G. O. quoted, and in conformity with the practice that had obtained hitherto in the department, I have the honour to request that the adjustment required may now be effected. I may mention that

the saving under the head of "Tools and Plant" in this division for 1870-71 amounted to Rupees 289, while the saving under all heads was no less than Rupees 16,000.

No. 409. ORDER THEREON, 25th July 1871, No. 1,947.

ACCOUNT, No. 36.

THE Government observe that the rules communicated with G. O., No. 2,394, of the 4th October 1870, for the adjustment of charges on account of work executed by Government Factories do not dispense with *payments* for repairs or manufacture, which, in the case of the Presidency Workshop, have always been demanded either in cash or its equivalent, but they simply provide that the settlement of charges should be effected in the accounts by means of transfer adjustments instead of cash payments, and the concluding clause of paragraph 1 leaves no room to doubt that an *allotment* of funds in all cases is considered necessary, for it distinctly requires officers intending to procure supplies from a Government Factory to *make provision in their Budget Estimates precisely as if they intended to resort to the open market.*

2. With the aid of the classified lists appended to the Manual, Range Officers should find no difficulty in distributing articles under the recognized heads, and it will there be observed that mathematical instruments (Surveying) come under the head of "Tools and Plant."

3. The allotment for the Madura Range having to bear the cost of the repair of tools and plant belonging to other ranges appears to be a divisional arrangement which it was for the Superintending Engineer to rectify, if found to be attended with practical inconvenience, by transferring monies from the same head in other ranges, or, if necessary, to have obtained the sanction of Government for such a transfer from the Tinnevelly District for the purpose.

4. His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that if the facts of the case are not, as Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts remarks, precisely those stated in the last paragraph of G. O., No. 1,633, dated 17th June 1871, the explanation of the circumstance must be looked for in the Superintending Engineer's own letter, which omitted to give a full and clear exposition of matters in the first instance. The fact of the grant for the Madura Range under "Tools and Plant" being exceeded having been brought under the notice of Government, it was inferred, in the absence of distinct information to the contrary, that the responsibility of incurring expenditure in excess of the allotment rested with the Range Officer.

5. The Superintending Engineer will see from the orders on the Objectionable Item Statement of the 8th Division for the month of March that the Controller of Public Works Accounts has been authorized to pass the outlay.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Slunker.

No 1019 Madura
27th June 1871.

From
Lieut. Col. R. A. Roberts R.E.
Actg. Superintg. Engineer 8th Divn

To
Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir

In reference to G.O. 17 June 1871 No 1633 furnishing instructions as to the manner in which money transactions with the Presidency Workshop are to be adjusted, I have the honor to report as follows.

It is with sincere regret that I learn that the remarks contained in the concluding para of my letter, No 615, of the 30th ultimo, are considered inappropriate, but I venture to point out that the facts are not precisely as stated in the last para of the G.O. quoted, nor does the G.O.

altogether meet the question.

2. In the first place I may mention that the Range Officer had <u>absolutely</u> nothing whatever to do with the matter, and can therefore hardly be blamed for having exceeded his authorized expenditure. I find from the records of this Office that on the 9th May 1870, the Officiating Superintending Engineer intimated to the General Superintendent of P.W. Stores and Workshops the despatch of a considerable number of Levelling and Mathematical instruments for repair and return. These were accordingly repaired and returned to this Office at intervals between July and September 1870.

3. In Ly:O dated 4th October 1870, No 2394, a new system of adjustment of accounts for the repair of instruments was communicated, and in accordance with the instructions contained in that Ly:O, the Superintendent of Stores submitted on the 18th February 1871 a Bill in triplicate of Rupees 418-15-3 for the repair of the instruments in question. One of these copies was duly countersigned and returned to the supplying Officer, and a second was submitted to the Controller as directed. From that time up to the present moment nothing was heard from the Controller on the subject: and as heretofore, it had not been the custom in the Divisions to charge the amount, whether of repairs or of original cost of inexpensive instruments of the kind in question to the meagre allotment for "Tools and Plant" under the head of either of which <u>contingencies</u> it would not,

submit, occur to a Range Officer without special instructions to that effect to rank Levelling or Mathematical Instruments, it was imagined that the account would be arranged as formerly under the head of Instruments supplied by the Government to the Divisions.

4. On the 25th March 1871, the General Superintendent of T. W. Stores and Workshops informed me that the above mentioned amount of Rupees 1,18,15-3 was debited on that date "to my Range", and he requested me to afford credit for the same in my cash accounts for the current month under "Transfers." This was accordingly done, under the impression that the Controller would make the necessary adjustments, as it was never for a moment supposed that the ordinary allotment of one Range

was to be all at once saddled with and to support, unaided, this Divisional charge.

5 Seeing therefore that the expenditure in the repair of these instruments was incurred prior to the publication of the G O quoted, and in conformity with the practice that had obtained hitherto in the Department, I have the honor to request that the adjustment required may now be effected. I may mention that the saving under the head of "Tools and Plant" in this Division for 1870-71 amounted to Rupees 289, while the saving under all heads was no less than Rupees 16,000.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servt.
Rich. F. Roberts Lieut. Col. RE
Dy. Superintg. Engineer &c &c

No 1947 / 25th July 1871

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Dated the 25th July 1871

Read the following

From Lt. Col. Strachey R.E. Supt. Trig. Survey

To The Government

Madras

Communicated with his No 2394 of the 4th Instant for the information of Government

I have the honor to report that the Triangulation of the Kalingapatam Series has been completed by the Observations at the Station Kalingapatam

Sd/ J. Strachey Lt. Col.

Supt. Trig. Survey

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Recd 13th July

Recd 15th July

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thing simply provide that the settlement of charges should be effected in the accounts by means of transfer adjustments instead of cash payments, and the concluding clause of paragraph 1 leaves no room to doubt that an allotment of funds in all cases is considered necessary for it distinctly requires officers intending to procure supplies from a Government factory to make provision in their Budget estimates precisely as if they intended to resort to the open market

... Worth the aid of the classified lists appended to the Manual, Range officers should find no

difficulty

difficulty in distributing articles under the recognized heads, and it will there be observed that mathematical instruments (Surveying) come under the head of "Tools and Plant"

The allotment for the Madura Range having to bear the cost of the repair of Tools and Plant belonging to other Ranges appears to be a Divisional arrangement which it was for the Safety Engineer to rectify, if found to be attended with practical inconvenience, by transferring monies from the Range heads in the Ranges as may be required, the sanction

direction of Government for such a transfer from the Sivaganga District for the purposes [illegible]

His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that if the facts of the "Case" are correctly stated in the last para of G.O. No. 633 dated 5th June '71 the explanation of the circumstances must be looked for in the Supdg. Engineer's own letters, which omitted to give a full and clear expression of matters on the first instance. The fact of the grant for the Madura Ramnad under "Roads and Bunds" being exceeded, having been brought under the notice of Government, it was inferred, in the absence of distinct information to the contrary, that the responsibility of incurring expenditure in excess of the allotment rested with the Range Officer.

The Superintending Engineer will see from the orders on the objectionable Item Statement of the 8th Division for the month of March that the Controller of Public Works Accounts has been authorized to pass the outlay.

J. 12th July

25

To The Dpty Secy to Govt. P.W.D.
" Contr. of P.W.A.

Desp. 26/7/71

Ofc 3041

Govt of India Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Executive Engr
8th Division

Dated

Rcvd.

G. O. No. 25 July 1947

Nos. 408407

Communicated to Engr. Asking
orders on the letter from
the Asst Engr Ofc 1st Sn
explaining the circumstances
under which the demurrage
of Rly ~~Officials incurred~~
in the Madura Range.
was incurred.